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AUTHOR Ostenson, Alan; Kemp, Margaret R.
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ABSTRACT

This booklet contains suggestions for parents (or teachers) who teach children at home (grades 4-6) to use in providing information on careers. The booklet covers the following topics: appreciation and attitudes, self-awareness, decision making, educational awareness, career awareness, economic awareness, beginning competencies, and employability skills. Three to seven suggestions are listed under each of these topics. (KC)

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GRADES 4, 5, and 6

APPRECIATION AND ATTITUDES

Help the student understand that work is a method of acquiring things that a person needs or wants.

Help your child understand the advantages and disadvantages of certain jobs.

Point out to your child that people have strengths and weaknesses that can effect their preference for a job.

Help your child understand there is a relationship between appropriate behavior and task completion.

Help your child to begin to understand that there is a value in doing a task properly.

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SELF AWARENESS

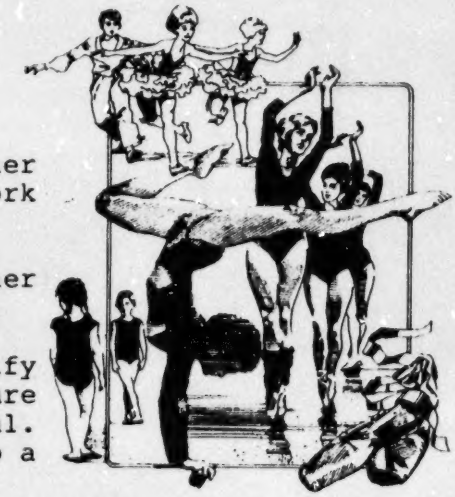
Encourage your child to see how his/her personal attributes can relate to work success in different occupations.

Help your child see how important his/her school work will be in later job decisions.

Try to encourage the child to identify personal interests, hobbies and leisure activities that are productive and useful. Sometimes these activities can lead to a positive career choice.

Encourage the student to be responsible for his/her everyday activities and actions.

Allow your child to talk to family friends who will give him/her more information about jobs in which the child is interested.



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DECISION MAKING

Encourage your child to see the value of setting goals to help insure a productive job decision.

Help your child be accountable for the decisions that he/she make and be responsible for the effect it has on himself/herself and others effected by his/her decision.

Help your child understand that the ability to make sound decisions will help solve community, social, home or work related problems.

At this point you might introduce the idea of actually writing down the pros and cons on a paper and chart the various alternative decisions and their consequences.

Many adults throughout their lives use a multitude of ways to help them visualize their difficult decisions. Share your methods with your child.

Encourage flexibility in decision making and the necessity to make changes as the information regarding the facts becomes clearer.

Always encourage the development of alternatives as part of the decision making process.

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EDUCATIONAL AWARENESS

Show your child through examples, how subjects such as reading, mathematics, writing and communicating are used in different occupations.

Explore with your child the interrelationships between attitudes, experiences and job performance in conjunction with educational activities.

Begin to help your child explore the different types of education and training available for occupations.

Encourage your child to identify the amounts of education needed for different occupations.

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CAREER AWARENESS

Begin encouraging your child to identify jobs that are similar. Assist your child to cluster types of jobs according to their industry.

(Examples of clusters might include: food services, printing, public utilities, sales, electronics, personal services and graphic services.)

Help your child list several job titles that have some similar aspects.

Help the child relate his or her own interests and abilities to the various career clusters in general.

Help the child to do the occupational exploring that is so essential to make successful career decisions.

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ECONOMIC AWARENESS

Help your child to identify the interdependency of specialized occupations in relation to the economic system. How are goods and services exchanged?

Encourage your child to experience the law of supply and demand. Help the child understand examples of over supply or under supply and what results from these conditions.

Assist the child in understanding how the production and the distribution of goods and services effect the success of a product.

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BEGINNING COMPETENCY

Encourage the child to continue developing good communication skills.

Help the child to learn the process of obtaining information: using dictionaries, encyclopedias, and catalogs.

Provide opportunities to develop speaking, listening, and writing skills as tools of beginning competency.

Encourage the child to name, use, maintain, and store all tools and materials necessary to perform required schoolwork and household chores.

Remember to review the basic tools of measurement. Discuss how simple machines can make a job so much easier.

Help the child develop an understanding of mass production, how it is accomplished and why it is important.

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EMPLOYABILITY SKILLS

Encourage the child to plan and follow a weekly schedule that will promote good performance on academic subjects.

Practice group participation, social-relation awarenesses and skills related to adjustment whenever it is possible.

Help the child understand that his/her social and personal relationships have an effect on his/her employment.

Help your child see that is important to have a broad base of academic and social skills that can be used in many careers.

Help the child recognize that health is a factor that contributes to work success. Who takes over when a person is absent? Discuss this question with your child.

Discuss the particular talents and attributes that your child sees as being helpful in finding and maintaining a job.

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